



Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

Supervisor Patricia Jursik, District 8

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COUNTY HOLDINGS DOWNSIZING TO PROVIDE A CATALYST FOR BUDGET PLANNING

City Campus to Be Focus Number One of Downsizing and Redevelopment

The Milwaukee County Board unanimously voted to embark on an historic course Thursday by approving a resolution that will be a catalyst for budget planning this year in making departmental moves to consolidate staff and create efficiencies as the County downsizes its real estate holdings, said Supervisor Patricia Jursik.

Under leadership of the County Board, which has engaged in strategic planning that focuses on downsizing County holdings to reduce costs and become more efficient, the resolution will provide guidance on how to reduce County real estate holdings while creating economic development.

“Consensus has been reached that City Campus on 27th and Wells should be the starting point for the downsizing initiative,” said Jursik, former chair of the Strategic Planning Committee and lead author of the resolution.

“It has truly been a long process with lots of data-gathering, partly with the assistance of the C.B. Richard Ellis real estate team, but we have a good plan with unanimous consent of the board.”

Jursik said the County Board has reached out to community partners to accomplish this initiative. Not wanting to create blight by closing or demolishing City Campus, the board has asked the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Milwaukee Public Schools, the Avenues West Business Improvement District and other local stakeholders to create a plan to address economic development in the area of City Campus while the county moves out of the old hospital facility. It was this creative planning that allowed the county board to overcome prior hurdles in creating a downsizing plan, she said.

With the help of Department of Administrative Services, the Architectural and Engineering Department and Economic Development Department, the County is also formulating the next steps in downsizing its real estate holdings. In July the county will determine how the Marcia Coggs Center will be used, whether it is used by County housing departments or the State of Wisconsin. The resolution also requires review of the courthouse complex.

“I am proud of my colleagues for the many amendments and ideas they brought to this effort,” Jursik said. “Our county staff has been working hard, and I believe the County Executive has garnered their full cooperation towards this effort. The next budget should be built around this initiative. We are all working together for the good of Milwaukee County.”

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